

akin to Napoleon's entries into Russia, to Hitler's entries into Russia and in the Danish countries' efforts to go into Russia. There are certain places you can't go and you can't win, and after 4½ years this country should know it. To put more troops there, to waste more blood, and to give up more lives is simply wrong. To support our troops is to bring them home.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for this time. I hope that not more American men and women will lose their blood or lose their limbs in what is an impossible war. We need to bring America home, bring our resources home, and bring our troops home.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 35 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 10 a.m.

□ 1000

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, giver of all good gifts, endow this Nation with moral integrity. Help us to grow in virtue and in vision, that America may truly be a leader in the community of nations. Use us to create Your kingdom here on earth, a kingdom of goodness and truth, a kingdom of peace and justice, a sign of Your presence dwelling here on earth, active in Your people, and a great blessing for the rest of the world.

We ask this, trusting in Your Holy Name, both now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. WALZ) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

IRAQ RESOLUTION SUPPORTS OUR TROOPS BY OPPOSING THE PRESIDENT'S TROOP ESCALATION

(Mr. WALZ of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, this week the House will have an opportunity to truly support our troops by having a substantial debate here on the House floor about the President's latest proposal for a troop escalation in Iraq. Some of my Republican colleagues will say that such a debate undermines our troops' efforts in Iraq. Nothing could be further from the truth.

How can this Congress stand on the sidelines when the President has been told by his generals, by an independent commission created by the old Republican Congress, by the American people, and by both Democrats and Republicans in the new Congress that this plan will not work? How can this Congress stand on the sidelines while our troops continue to serve as referees in a situation that even our own intelligence agencies say is worse than a civil war?

Madam Speaker, the resolution we will begin to debate today has the well-being of our troops first. First and foremost, we support them. We support them by saying enough is enough with the bad planning. The President should not send more troops to Iraq for the simple reason that it will not make any difference on a deteriorating situation on the ground.

THE UNGRATEFUL NATION?

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, as we begin the debate on Iraq today, I have received input from Brian in Humble, Texas. He says, "I am a veteran of Vietnam. My father is a veteran of World War II, Korea and Vietnam. I have four brothers that are veterans, and my oldest son is serving his fourth tour of duty in Iraq. If winning in Iraq takes more resources, it is far better than the alternatives. You owe the young men and women, and yes, my son in harm's way, your total support."

The cost of our security does not come without a price. The alternatives, the loss of American freedoms and security and leaving Iraq before our duty is done, is not the option. If more troops are needed, then it is our duty to supply them.

What message does this Nation send its heroes deep within the belly of combat to tell them no troops are coming to their aid? This leaves those left behind stranded without the resources in front of a deadly enemy.

Mr. Speaker, the words of this veteran, whose family holds a proud history of service to America, are wise words. This Nation owes its gratitude

and support to its U.S. soldiers fighting to protect our interests; otherwise, we will be judged to be the ungrateful Nation.

And that's just the way it is.

PRESIDENT DOES NOT PRIORITIZE ISSUES IMPORTANT TO MIDDLE CLASS AMERICANS

(Ms. SOLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, for 6 years, Americans have felt left behind by this administration and a Republican Congress that did not prioritize issues important to many Americans. With the November elections, we had hoped that President Bush would get the message that Americans wanted change. Unfortunately, the President's budget, in my opinion, is no different than many of the budgets of his last 6 years; it leaves too many people behind.

Six years ago, the President vowed to leave no child left behind, but his budget underfunds our schools by \$15 billion. How can the President hold schools accountable when he refuses to give them the funding necessary to make those improvements?

The President's budget will also force States to eliminate health care coverage for children because he refuses to provide enough money to the SCHIP program to cover more than 9 million kids now enrolled in the program. At a time when 1 million more Americans are joining the ranks of the uninsured every year, do we really want to take health care coverage away from the most vulnerable populations, the children and low-income parents?

Mr. Speaker, the President's priorities are different than ours, and our budget will look significantly different.

O'HARE AIRPORT

(Mr. KIRK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, the security at O'Hare Airport is not what it should be. Reports over the weekend showed 3,700 security badges have not been returned from former employees no longer allowed to work at the airfield. Many of the badges had not been canceled and would permit anyone access to an aircraft.

According to CBS TV, several of the employees involved had previous arrest records and convictions for nonmajor crimes. Reports also indicated that several doors at O'Hare did not even have ID scanners, allowing anyone who appeared to be official to enter the airfield.

The Department of Homeland Security, the Transportation Security Agency and Federal law enforcement officers that I have met with have all promised action. While they can levy fines on the contractors involved, the penalties should be increased.